

# **The Computing & Interdisciplinary Systems Office**

**Annual Review and Planning Meeting  
October 9-10, 2002**

**Coupled Fluid and Structural Analysis of Pump Stages  
for  
Space Propulsion Systems**

**Chunill Hah**



Computing and Interdisciplinary Systems Office  
Glenn Research Center

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**Coupled Fluid and Structural Analysis of Pump  
Stages for Space Propulsion Systems**

**C. Hah  
NASA Glenn Research Center**

**J. Loellbach  
ICOMP**

**A. K. Owen  
NASA Glenn Research Center**

**S. Khandelwal  
RS Information Systems, Inc.**



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## Objective

- **Develop a coupled fluid/structure analysis tool for rocket turbopumps.**
- **Advance hardware concepts and designs.**
- **Improve safety, reliability, and cost of space transportation.**



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## Background

- **High power density of rocket engine pumps requires high-fidelity definition of pump environments.**
- **Currently, pump stage interaction effects and fluid/structure interaction effects are not modeled properly during the design cycle.**
- **Cavitation is not modeled during pump design cycle.**



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## **Coupled Fluid/Structure Analysis with Cavitation Modeling**

- **Flow: HPUMP3D (3D, unsteady Navier-Stokes code)**
- **Structure: ANSYS**
- **Coupling: Unified NPSS tool**



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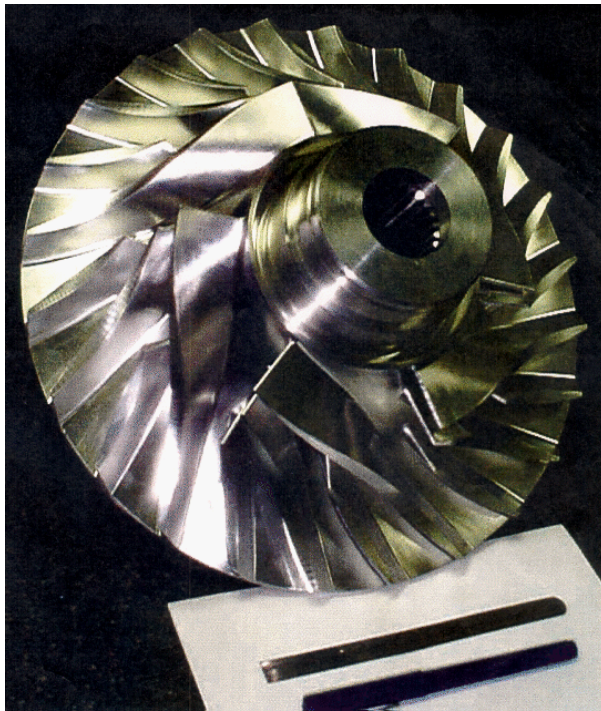
## **Validation of Flow Code for Rocket Engine Pumps**

- **RLV pump stage**
- **Deep-throttle turbopump stage**
- **Cavitation in a cascade of pump blades**



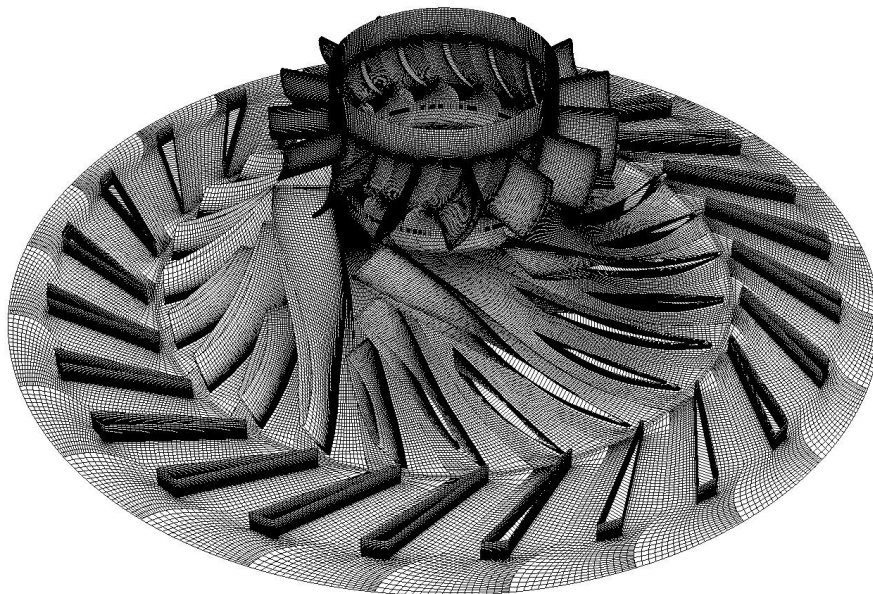
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## Impeller from RLV Pump Stage



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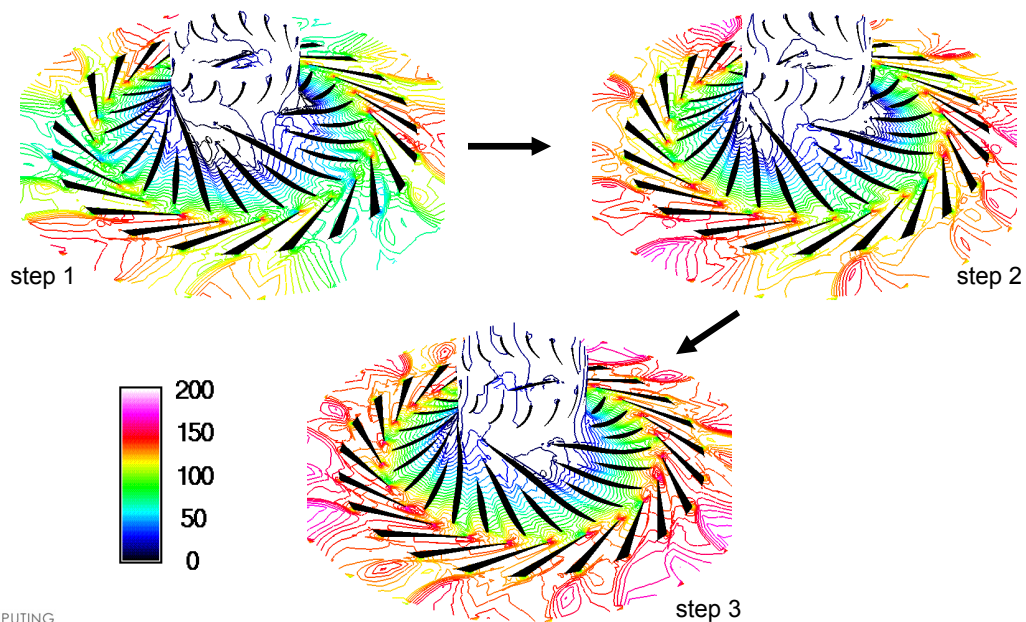
## Computational Grid for Numerical Flow Analysis of RLV Pump Stage



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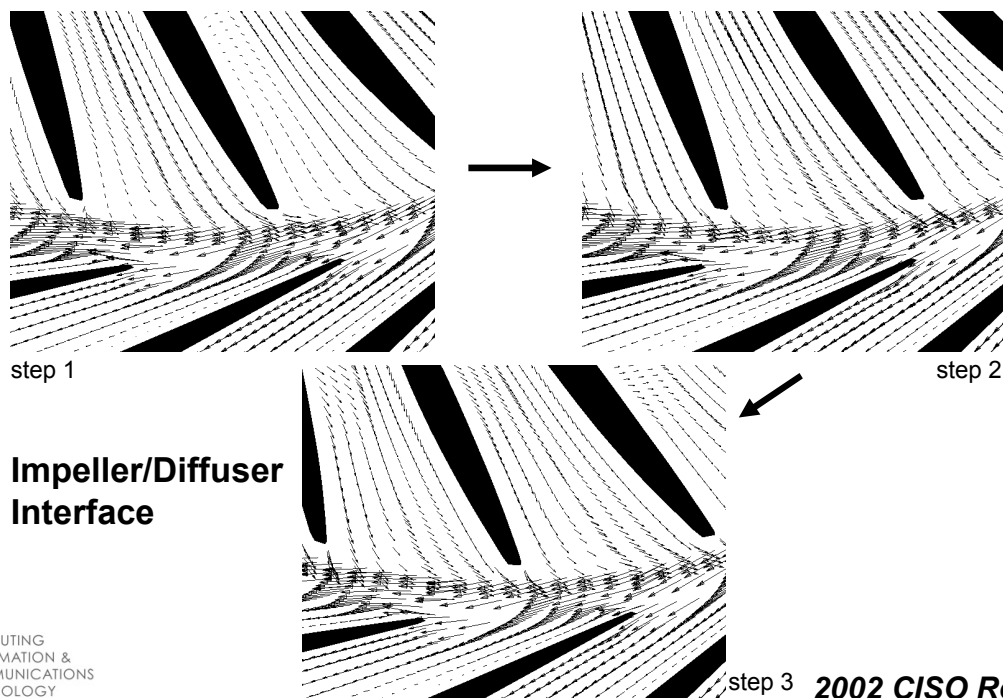


## Mid-Span Pressure Contours at Three Different Time Steps (65% Mass Flow)



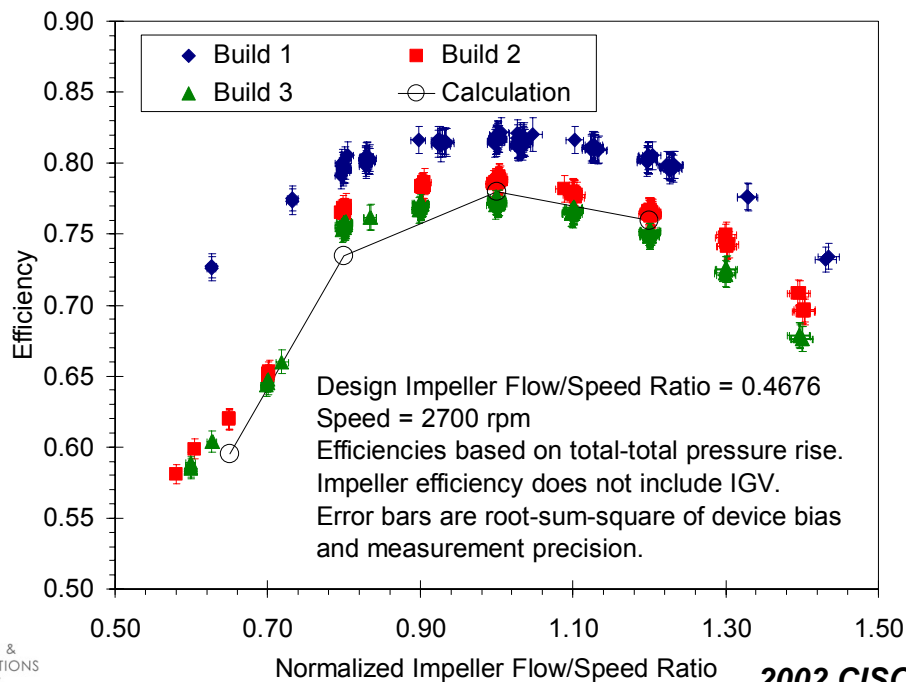
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## Mid-Span Velocity Vectors at Three Different Time Steps (65% Mass Flow)

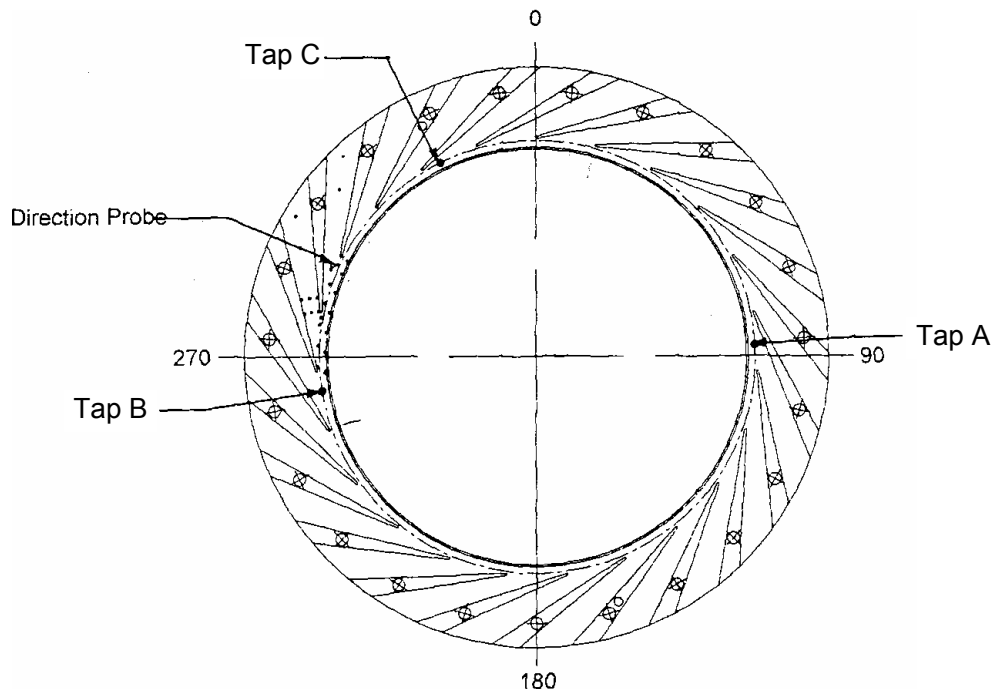


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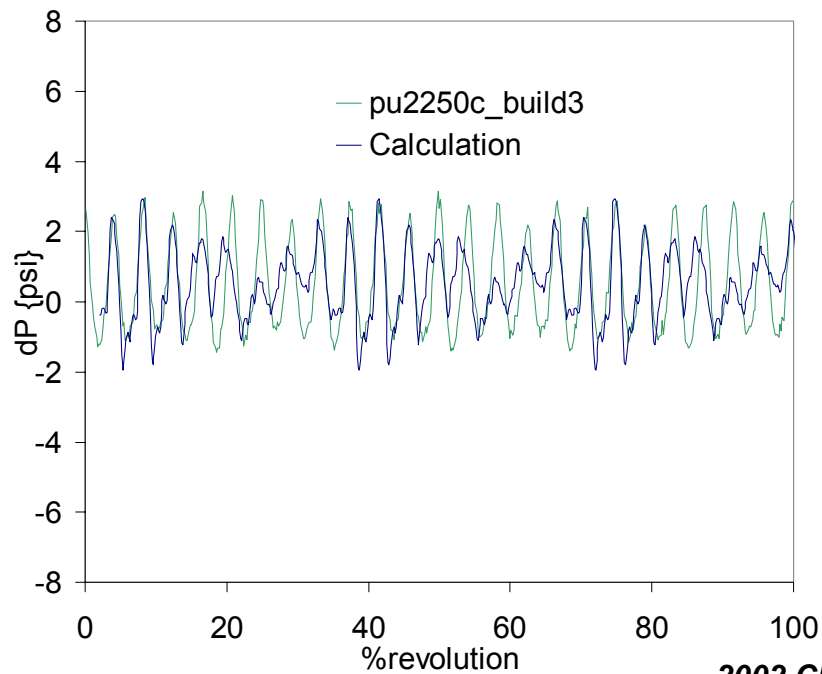
## Comparison of Measured and Calculated Stage Hydraulic Efficiency



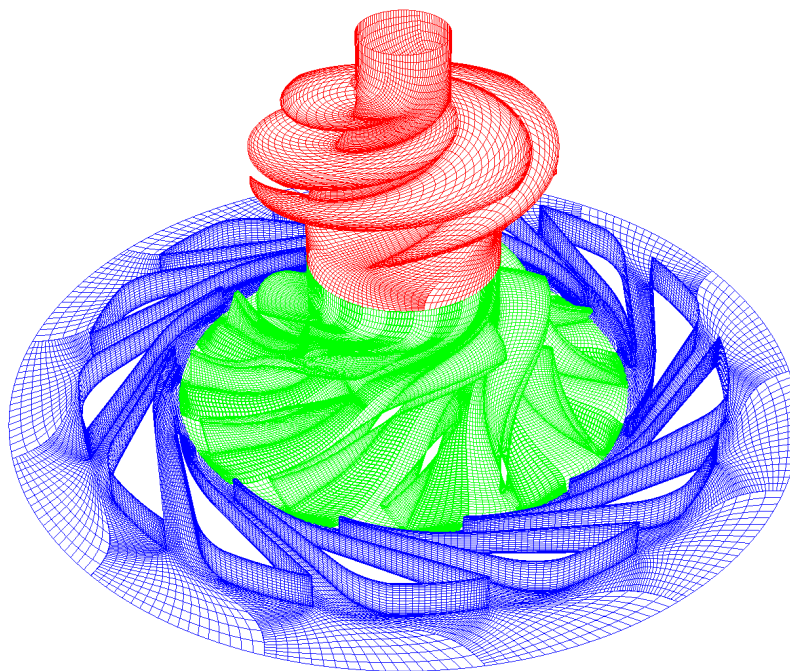
## Unsteady Pressure Instrumentation



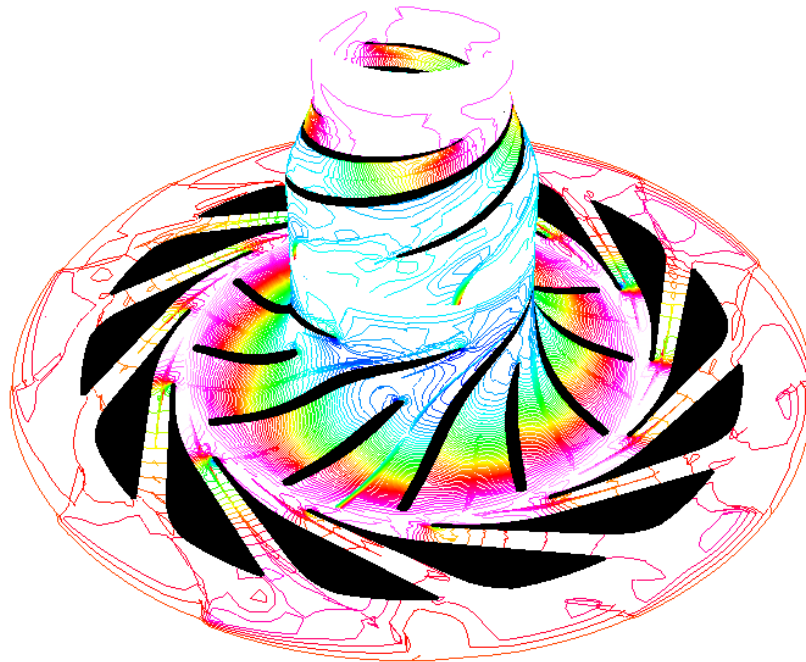
## Comparison of Measured and Calculated Unsteady Pressure from Tap C



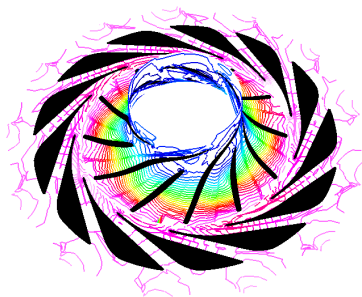
## Deep-Throttle Stage Grids (inducer + impeller + diffuser)



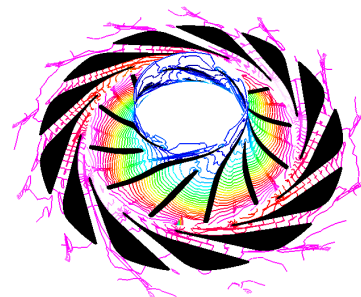
## 3D Steady Combined Pressure Field at Midspan



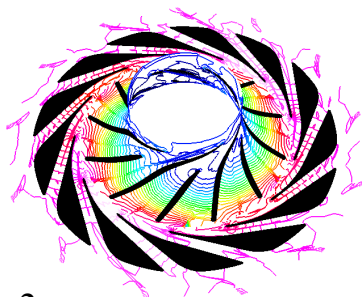
## Midspan Static Pressure Distribution



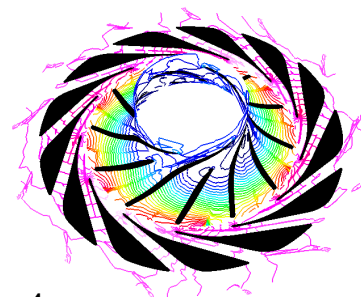
1



2



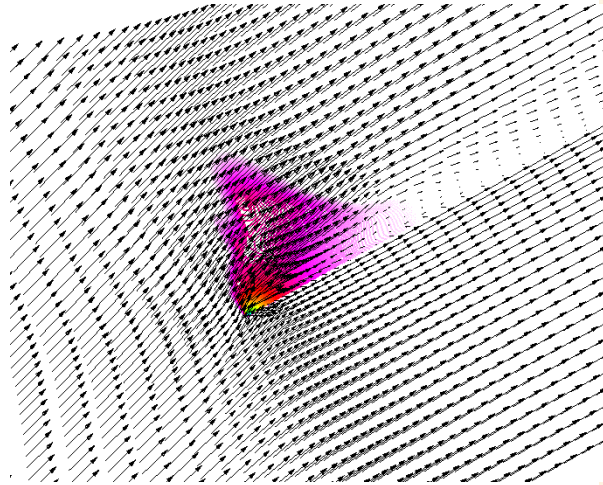
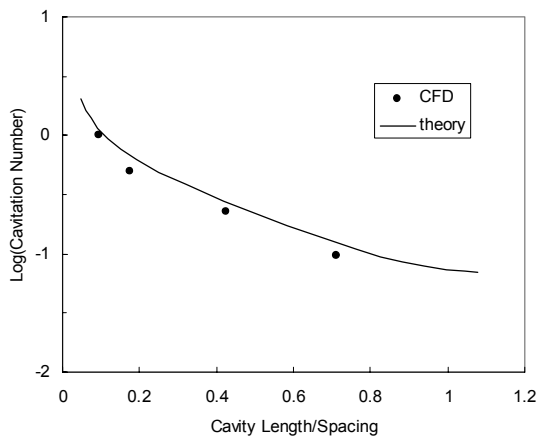
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4



## Validation of Cavitation Modeling

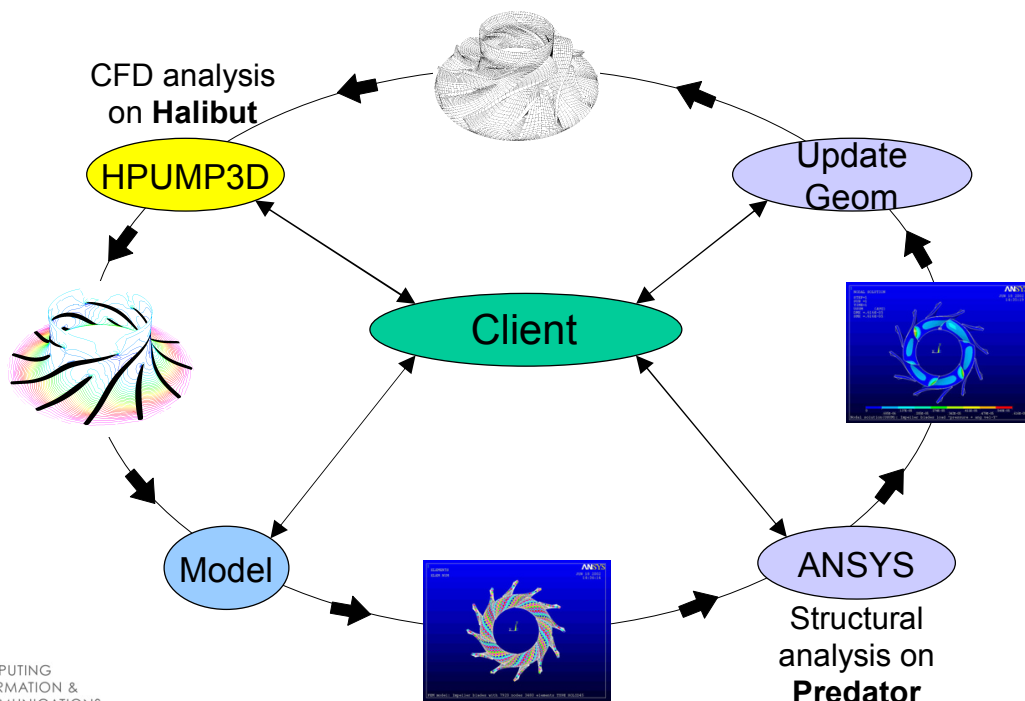


Comparison of cavitation length. CFD simulation of cavitation in a cascade of flat plates.



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HPUMP3D ↔ ANSYS



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## Coupling of HPUMP3D and ANSYS

- HPUMP3D - cfd code
- ANSYS - structure code



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## Executing Codes Using CCDK

- **Corba Component Development Kit** using indirect wrapper approach.
- Using IOR's as location identifiers.
- Allows bi-directional exchange of data files.



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- Demo** - program in unix script (bourne shell)
- start all remote servers.
  - run 'program Client'.
  - kill all servers.

- Client** - written in C++.
- creates a new copy of all remote servers.
  - executes all programs in sequence as defined.
  - each server is connected to an executable program.
  - controls execution loop, allows exchange of data.
  - catches exceptions (unix signal 1 2 3 15) and stops.



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- cfd** - executes cfd code - HPUMP3D
- creates output files (for grid and solution)

- Model** - executes a program model.f
- reads grid and solution files (from cfd code).
  - creates data files for nodes, elements and pressure to be read by ANSYS. Only blade geometry data are used.

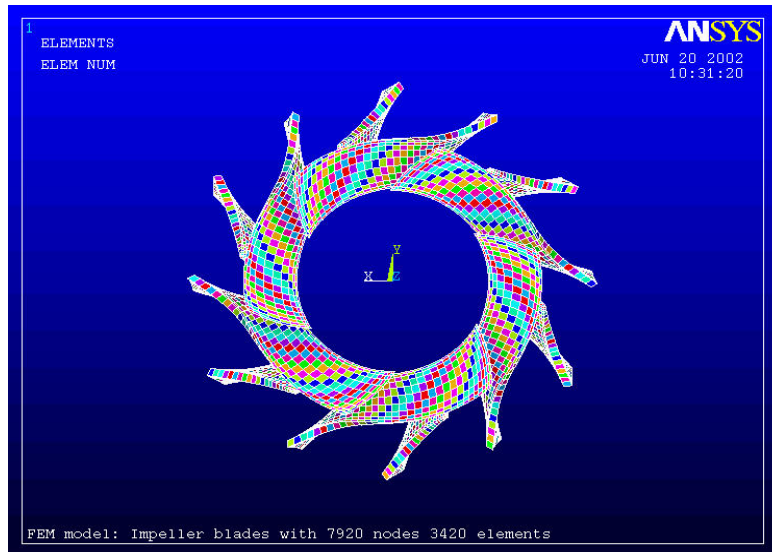
**ANSYS impeller**

- creates finite element model (FEM) by reading node and element data for impeller blades.
- find solution for load " pressure + angular vel".
- writes the new blade coordinates after solution.

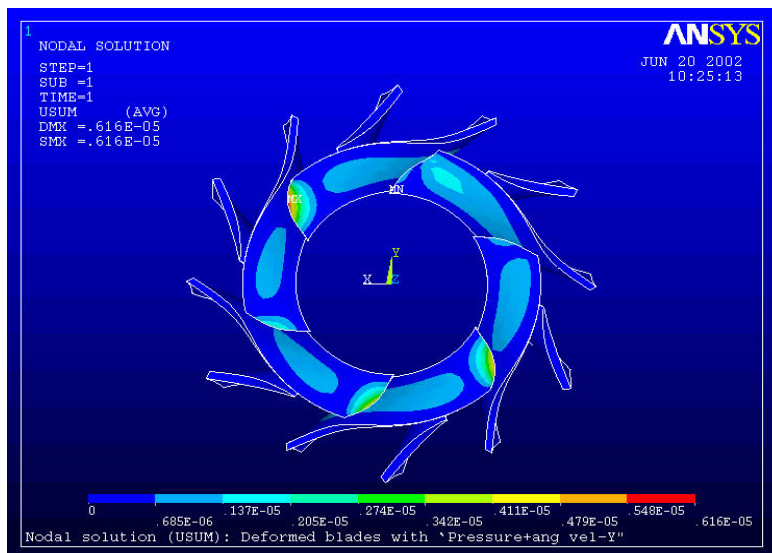


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## Impeller Blades: FEM Model



## Impeller Blades: Deformed Shape





**Update geom** - program in Fortran (updgrid.f)

- **creates new geometry data by replacing updated blade geometry (from ANSYS) in the original cfd grid data.**
- **generates a new grid for cfd calculations.**

## **Current and Future Developments**

- **Complete transient coupled analysis of impeller.**
- **Full pump stage coupled analysis (IGV + impeller + diffuser).**
- **Implementation and validation of cavitation capability.**